

BOARD OF TRADE,

GWYBYR HOUSE,

Whitehall, S. W.

26th February 1915.

DEAR DRAKE,

I enclose copy of a stock form of reply settled with Sir Arthur Thring which we are using in connection with applications to import goods from Belgium.

You may care to have this by you in connection with any questions that may arise as to the importation of Belgian goods into India.

A license to the Bank to allow the account to be operated upon would only be given in exceptional cases in which satisfactory guarantees could be obtained from the Belgian manufacturer to ensure that money only entered Belgium for the purpose of, say, paying a week's wages to the work people employed.

Yours, etc.,

J. J. WILLIS.

R. C. Drake, Esq.,

India Office.

(Draft—Settled with Sir A. Thring)

C.

SIR,

GENTLEMEN,

With reference to your application for permission to import into this country goods of Belgian origin, I am directed by the Board of Trade to draw your attention to the Proclamation of the 16th February, extending the provisions of the Trading with the Enemy Proclamation of the 9th September to all territory in the effective military occupation of an enemy, from which you will see that you are prohibited from trading with or paying money to or for the benefit of firms situated in the occupied part of Belgium without the express permission of His Majesty's Government.

The Board are, however, prepared to authorise you to import into this country goods of Belgian origin provided that payment is deferred until the enemy occupation has ceased, or that payment is made into an account in a Bank in this country, and an undertaking is obtained from the Bank that the money cannot be withdrawn except under license.

Before delivery can be taken of any particular consignment of goods of Belgian origin it will be necessary for you to furnish to the Customs Authorities an undertaking that the above conditions as regards payment will be duly observed, and also a certificate granted by a British Consular Officer to the effect that he is satisfied from documentary evidence that has been put before him that the goods are in fact of Belgian origin. This authority must also be produced at the same time.

I am to add that in those cases in which certificates of origin are not required for goods imported from Holland they will not be required for goods of Belgian origin.

I am, etc.,

20 BLYTHSWOOD SQUARE,

GLASGOW,

22nd February 1915.

The Secretary,

Board of Trade,

London,

Trading with Belgium.

Referring to the revision to the Proclamation regarding trading with the enemy, as amended by the Proclamation of 16th February, we had placed with Messrs. Ste. Ame. Clouterie and Trefilerie des Flandres, Gentbrugge, several orders for nails, before the issue of the Proclamation, and we shall be obliged by your saying on what conditions we may have a permit enabling us to receive delivery of these orders, which are to be delivered f. o. b. Rotterdam for shipment to Rangoon. We are also in treaty with Messrs. Ste. Ame. Liegeoise d'Estampage, Selessin near Liege for some lots of Expanded Metal and Lathing for shipment to the same destination, for which a permit will also be necessary.

On 6th February 1915 Messrs. Ste. Ame. Etablissements Brepols Turnhout, invoiced to us 12 cases Playing Cards, and as the goods were forwarded before the issue of the Proclamation, we ask your authority to have same transhipped to Rangoon on arrival in Birkenhead. There are also several other deliveries to make of the same order, and we shall be obliged by permit to ship the same to Rangoon.